

CLAIMS

1. System for guiding a user in a network of pay points delivering goods or services, such as parking ticket dispensers (X, Y) for paying parking fees, characterized in
5 that each machine (X) comprises first means for supplying to the user information on the location of said machine (X).

2. Guidance system according to claim 1, characterized in that said means for supplying the user
10 with information on the location of said machine (X) cooperate with payment means of said machine (X) so that said location information is not supplied to the user until a payment for goods or services has been effected at said machine (X).

3. Guidance system according to either claim 1 or claim 2, characterized in that said information on the location of said machine (X) consists in a unique
15 identification code.

4. Guidance system according to any one of claims
20 1 to 3, characterized in that said information on the location of said machine (X) is printed on a ticket issued by printing means of said machine (X).

5. Guidance system according to any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that said machine (X) includes
25 appropriate writing means for transferring said information on the location of said machine (X) into the appropriate memories of a contact or contactless type microprocessor card of the user, such as a payment card.

6. Guidance system according to any one of claims
30 1 to 5, characterized in that said machine (X) comprises appropriate radio-frequency transmission means for transferring said information on the location of said machine (X) by radio into the memories of a suitable terminal of the user, such as a mobile telephone, for
35 example in the form of a voice telephone call, an SMS text message or an e-mail.

7. Guidance system according to any one of claims

1 to 6, characterized in that said machine (X) includes second means for supplying guidance information enabling the user to go from said machine to any other machine (Y) of said network, said second means including acquisition means for acquiring information on the location of said other machine (Y) supplied by the user.

8. Guidance system according to claim 7, characterized in that said means for providing guidance information for going from said machine (X) to any other machine (Y) of said network cooperate with payment means of said machine (X) so that said guidance information is supplied to the user only after a payment for a service of this kind has been effected at said machine (X).

9. Guidance system according to either claim 7 or claim 8, characterized in that said acquisition means of said machine (X) include a man-machine interface, such as a keypad, on which said user may enter information on the location of said other machine (Y) to which he wishes to go.

10. Guidance system according to any one of claims 7 to 9, characterized in that said acquisition means of said machine (X) include a microprocessor card reader for recovering said information on the location of said other machine (Y) in the appropriate memories of a contact or contactless type microprocessor card of the user, such as a payment card.

11. Guidance system according to any one of claims 7 to 10, characterized in that said acquisition means of said machine (X) include appropriate radio-frequency receiving means for downloading by radio said information on the location of said other machine (Y) from a suitable communication terminal of the user, such as a mobile telephone, for example in the form of an SMS message.

12. Guidance system according to any one of claims 7 to 11, characterized in that said guidance information for going to said other machine (Y) is printed on a ticket issued by printing means of said machine (X).

13. Guidance system according to any one of claims 7 to 12 characterized in that said guidance information for going to said other machine (Y) is displayed on an appropriate screen of said machine (X).

5 14. Guidance system according to any one of claims 7 to 13, characterized in that said guidance information for going to said other machine (Y) is communicated by voice synthesis means of said machine (X).

10 15. Guidance system according to any one of claims 7 to 14, characterized in that said machine (X) includes appropriate radio-frequency transmitting means for sending said guidance information for going to said other machine (Y) to a suitable terminal of the user, such as a mobile telephone, for example in the form of a voice telephone
15 call, an SMS text message or an e-mail.

 16. Guidance system according to any one of claims 1 to 15, characterized in that said location information and/or said guidance information comprises the address of said machine (X, Y).

20 17. Guidance system according to any one of claims 1 to 15, characterized in that said location and/or guidance information comprises a map of the neighborhood of said machine (X, Y).

 18. Guidance system according to any one of claims 25 7 to 15, characterized in that said guidance information comprises a description of one or more paths to said other machine (Y) from said machine (X).

 19. Guidance system according to any one of claims 30 7 to 15, characterized in that said guidance information comprises a map of one or more paths to said other machine (Y) from said machine (X).